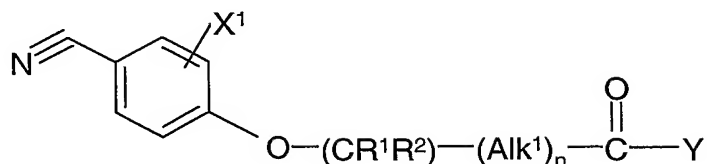


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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



in which;

- a) X^1 is represented by cyano, halogen or haloalkyl,
- b) R^1 and R^2 are each independently represented by hydrogen or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl, optionally substituted,
- c) Alk^1 is represented by a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_2$ linear alkylene group, in which up to two hydrogen atoms are optionally replaced by a substituent selected from the group consisting of $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl optionally substituted, halogen, hydroxy, thiol, and cyano,
- d) n is represented by the integer 0 or 1,
- e) Y is represented by NX^2X^3 or O-X^3 ,
- f) X^2 is represented by hydrogen or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl optionally substituted,
- g) X^3 is represented by
 - i. hydrogen,
 - ii. $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{12})$ alkyl, optionally substituted,
 - iii. $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12})$ alkenyl, optionally substituted,
 - iv. $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12})$ alkynyl, optionally substituted,
 - v. $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted,
 - vi. $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl, in which the alkyl and cycloalkyl moieties may each be optionally substituted,
 - vii. $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})$ aryl, optionally substituted,
 - viii. $(\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10})$ aryl $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl, in which the alkyl and aryl moieties may each be optionally substituted,

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- ix. $-(\text{CH}_2)-(\text{Alk}^2)_q-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^3$, in which Alk^2 is represented by a (C_1-C_8) linear alkylene group, in which up to eight hydrogen atoms may optionally be replaced by a substituent, selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_6) alkyl optionally substituted, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, halogen, hydroxy, thiol, cyano, and NR^8R^9 in which R^8 and R^9 are each independently represented by hydrogen or (C_1-C_6) alkyl, q is the integer 0 or 1, R^3 is represented by hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl, $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl, or $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the alkyl and aryl moieties may each be optionally substituted,
- x. $-(\text{CH}_2)-(\text{Alk}^2)_q-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-\text{R}^4$, in which Alk^2 and q are as defined above, and R^4 is represented by hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl, $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl, or $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the alkyl and aryl moieties may be optionally substituted,
- xi. $-(\text{CH}_2)-(\text{Alk}^2)_q-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^6$ in which Alk^2 and q are as described above, and R^5 and R^6 are each independently represented by hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl, $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl, or $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the alkyl and aryl moieties may be optionally substituted,
- xii. $-(\text{CH}_2)-(\text{Alk}^2)_q-\text{Y}-\text{R}^7$, in which Alk^2 and q are as defined above, Y is O or S, and R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{12})$ alkyl, $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl, or $(\text{C}_6-\text{C}_{10})$ aryl (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the alkyl and aryl moieties may be optionally substituted,
- xiii. heteroaryl, optionally substituted,
- xiv. heteroaryl (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the heteroaryl and alkyl moieties may each be optionally substituted,
- xv. heterocyclic, optionally substituted,
- xvi. heterocyclic (C_1-C_6) alkyl, in which the alkyl

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and heterocyclic moieties may each be substituted, or,

h) for those compounds in which Y is N, X² and X³, along with the adjacent nitrogen atom, may form a heterocyclic ring, which may optionally be substituted, or a salt, solvate, or prodrug thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 in which one of R¹ or R² is hydrogen and the other of R¹ or R² is selected from the group consisting of isobutyl, propyl, n-butyl, isopropyl, and ethyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 in which n is 0.

4. A compound according to claim 1, 2, or 3 in which X¹ is trifluoromethyl and is located at the 3-position of the phenyl ring.

5. A compound according to claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 in which Y is NX²X³.

6. A compound according to claim 5 in which X² is hydrogen.

7. A compound according to claim 6 in which X³ is represented by a substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₁₂)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₆-C₁₀)aryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, heteroaryl, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, and heterocyclic(C₁-C₆)alkyl.

8. A compound according to claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 in which Y is OX³.

9. A compound according to anyone of claims 1-8 in which X¹ is represented by halogen or haloalkyl.

10. Use of a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 as a medicine.

11. Use of a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting activation of the androgen receptor

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12. Use of a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 in the manufacture of a medicament for the alleviating a condition selected from the group consisting of hormone dependent cancers, benign hyperplasia of the prostate, acne, hirsutism, excess sebum, alopecia, premenstrual syndrome, lung cancer, precocious puberty, osteoporosis, hypogonadism, age-related decrease in muscle mass, and anemia.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 in admixture with 1, or more, pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

14. A topical pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 in admixture with 1, or more, pharmaceutically acceptable excipients suitable for dermal application.

15. An article of manufacture comprising a compound according to anyone of claims 1-9 packaged for retail distribution, which advises a consumer how to utilize the compound to alleviate a condition selected from the group consisting of acne, alopecia, and oily skin.